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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 10-16 and 18-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 10 and 16 and cancel claim 17.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 13, 15, 18, 19, 21 and 22 are allowed, and that claim 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended claim 10 to include all of the features recited in allowable claim 17. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 10 is allowable.

Claims 10, 14 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takoshima et al. (U.S. 4,736,128). Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 11-312943 ('943). Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takoshima et al. in view of '943. Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takoshima in view of EP 0 878 905 ('905).

As noted above, claim 10 has been amended to include all of the features recited in allowable claim 17. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 10, 14 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takoshima et al., the rejection of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takoshima et al. in view of '943 and the rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takoshima in view of EP 0 878 905 ('905) are moot. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by '943.

Claim 16 has been amended to recite:

"A surface acoustic wave apparatus, comprising:
a piezoelectric substrate;
at least one electrode for a surface acoustic wave element
disposed on the piezoelectric substrate;
an electrode pad disposed on the piezoelectric substrate and

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arranged to be joined with a bump during a bump bonding process performed by a flip chip bonding system; and

a wiring electrode for electrically connecting the electrode pad and the electrode for the surface acoustic wave element, wherein:

the electrode pad includes a first electrode layer disposed on the piezoelectric substrate and a second electrode layer laminated on the first electrode layer;

the second electrode layer and the wiring electrode are integral with each other and include a common conductive film; and

the electrode for the surface acoustic wave element and the first electrode layer of the electrode pad, to be connected with the electrode for the surface acoustic wave element, are arranged in contact with each other." (emphasis added)

With the unique combination and arrangement of elements recited in Applicants' claim 16, including the features of "the second electrode layer and the wiring electrode are integral with each other and include a common conductive film" and "the electrode for the surface acoustic wave element and the first electrode layer of the electrode pad, to be connected with the electrode for the surface acoustic wave element, are arranged in contact with each other," Applicants have been able to provide a surface acoustic wave apparatus having superior reliability, and in which adhesion between the electrode pad and the piezoelectric substrate is very high, peeling of the electrode pad from the piezoelectric substrate is prevented from occurring, and cracks are prevented from being generated during the mounting of the package by a flip chip bonding method (see, for example, the second full paragraph on page 5 of the originally filed specification).

The Examiner alleged that '943 teaches all of the features recited in claim 16.

Claim 16 has been amended to recite the feature of "the second electrode layer and the wiring electrode are integral with each other and include a common conductive film."

First, in contrast to Applicants' claim 16, '943 teaches an electrode pad 16 including only a single electrode layer as clearly seen in Fig 2 of '943. '943 fails to teach or suggest any electrode pad which includes a first electrode layer and a second

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electrode layer, and thus, certainly fails to teach or suggest the feature of "the second electrode layer and the wiring electrode are integral with each other and include a common conductive film" as recited in Applicants' claim 16.

Second, as clearly seen in Figs. 1 and 6 of '943, all of the electrode pads 13, 16, 113 and 116 of '943 are spaced apart from all of the electrodes of the surface acoustic wave elements 12, 15, 112 and 115, and none of the electrode pads 13, 16, 113 and 116 are in contact with any of the surface acoustic wave elements 12, 15, 112 and 115. Thus, '943 clearly fails to teach or suggest the feature of "the electrode for the surface acoustic wave element and the first electrode layer of the electrode pad, to be connected with the electrode for the surface acoustic wave element, are arranged in contact with each other" as recited in Applicants' claim 16.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that '943 fails to teach or suggest the unique combination and arrangement of elements recited in Applicants' claim 16.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by '943.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 10 and 16 are allowable. Claims 11, 12, 14 and 20 depend upon claim 10, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claim 10 is allowable. In addition, claims 13, 15, 18, 19, 21 and 22 are allowed, as indicated by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

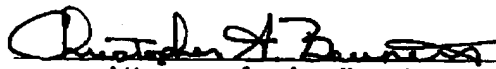
To the extent necessary, Applicants petition the Commissioner for a One-month extension of time, extending to April 29, 2005, the period for response to the Office Action dated December 29, 2004.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

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